

Smarter Balanced Assessment: FAQ

How are the assessments being tested before implementation in the 2014-15 school year?

[Smarter Balanced](#) has incrementally tested the content of the assessment and the [technology](#) that will support the assessment. Smarter Balanced has already completed:

- Cognitive Labs: Individual students provided feedback to test developers about their experience with the innovative test questions, accommodations for students with special needs, and the testing software.
- Small-scale Trials: Promising types of questions and software features were further tried out with hundreds of students.
- [Pilot Test](#): Students at about 5,000 schools across the Consortium responded to a preliminary pool of test questions and performance tasks.
- This spring 2014, the Consortium is conducting its [Field Test](#) to present the entire pool of Smarter Balanced items to students across member states. The Field Test is expected to involve students in about 15 to 20 percent of Consortium schools, and will gather the information necessary for final evaluation of item quality.

Mary Ann Minardo
Teacher Outreach Coordinator
(802) 479-1309 | maryann.minardo@state.vt.us